

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant appreciates the Examiner's acknowledgement that all claims are patentably distinguished over the cited prior art of record. Applicant has amended the specification and claims so as to comply with the Sequence Listing requirements and to correct typographical errors. Applicant has also submitted a new Substitute Sequence Listing. Claims 1-4, 7 and 24-25 are amended and claims 26-41 are added. Claims 1-9 and 19-39 are presently pending and appear herein for the Examiner's review and consideration. Independent claims 1, 4 and 25 have been amended to more clearly set forth each of the claimed peptides with corresponding SEQ ID NOS. These amendments are fully supported by the original specification and, for example, by original claims 1 and 3. Furthermore, claims 2-4 were amended only to add the appropriate SEQ ID NO., while Claims 7 and 24 were amended simply to correct typographical errors. New claims 26 to 41 are also supported by the specification, for example, at page 1 last paragraph and Example 2 on page 3, respectively, and by the original claims. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments, such that entry of the claims at this time is warranted.

Claims 1-9 and 19-25 were objected to for failing to recite a "SEQ ID NO:" for each peptide sequence. The claims and specification have now been amended so that each peptide sequence is labeled with the corresponding SEQ ID NO. In view of the amendments, Applicant requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Claim 24 was objected to for having a typographical error, the misspelling of "intransally." The typographical error of Claim 24 has now been corrected and the objection overcome.

Claims 1-9 and 19-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, claim 3 was rejected for reciting a limitation not supported by claim 1 from which it depends. Claim 1 has now been amended to also encompass SEQ ID NO:4. In view of the amendment to claim 1, the limitation of claim 3 is now supported by claim 1. Thus, the rejection of claim 3 is now believed to be moot. Claim 7 was rejected for reciting "formation" instead of "formulation." Claim 7 has been amended to correct this typographical error. Finally, claims 1 and 25 and claims dependent thereon were rejected for allegedly being "unclear whether the Applicant is claiming additional -OH groups for each sequence." Applicant respectfully traverses.

First, in response to the Examiner's question regarding the terminal amino acid and terminal group, Applicant is not claiming additional -OH groups. The terminal amino

acid residue, for example -Phe in SEQ ID NO:1, would necessarily comprise a C(O) group at the right hand-side of the peptide sequence. The C(O) group may be terminated with an -OH group to form a terminal carboxylic acid or a NH₂ group to form a terminal amide group.

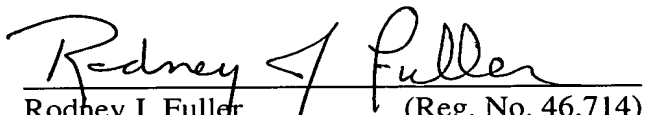
This is well known by those of ordinary skill in the art.

To clarify this, and in an effort to expedite the allowance of this application, Applicant has amended claims 1, 4 and 25 to delete the symbols "A" and "B" and have added the phrase, "wherein the peptide terminates with an -OH or -NH₂ terminal group." In view of the above explanation and the amendments, the claims are more clearly definite. One of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the peptide sequences as claimed terminate with either a carboxylic acid or amide group. As such, this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is believed to be moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance, early notice of which would be appreciated. Should the Examiner not agree with this position, then a further personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues in an effort to expeditiously advance the application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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